

TN H₂O

What is TN H₂O?



Led by a steering committee of leaders from federal, state, and local governments, industry, academia, environmental advocacy groups, and public and private utilities, TN H₂O is **a statewide plan for future water availability in Tennessee.**

The plan assesses current water resources and makes recommendations.

What was the process?



Since January 2018, **teams of subject matter experts in various fields have studied the current state of water resources** and interpreted and assessed a wide array of data and information. The resources studied include surface water, groundwater, and natural aquatic systems; related topics include water and wastewater infrastructure, water law, and recreation.



From that, the volunteer teams synthesized, analyzed, and identified gaps in available data and information to arrive at recommendations for key focus areas for achieving and maintaining water availability in the future.

What Are the Recommendations?



Address current and impending infrastructure needs. A mechanism should be established to address unserved areas, infrastructure repair/replacement issues, and funding shortfalls faced by rural systems.



Develop a comprehensive water resources planning process and planning cycle based on good science and information (consistent monitoring, data collection, modeling, trending, and reporting) that includes all major users and stakeholders.



Develop a campaign to help the public and decision makers understand the value of water and natural resources and complexity in managing them.



Greater collaboration and communication concerning Tennessee's water resources.



Evaluate existing laws to assess their implementation (e.g., Water Resources Act, Watershed District Act and Water Resources Information Act) and determine and enable proper jurisdictions for regional water planning and programs.



Use the state water-resources task force or advisory committee and regional water-resources jurisdictions to **facilitate intrastate and interstate regional cooperation.**



Identify sustainable funding for all TN H₂O recommendations.

What is the Next Step?



The next step is to **receive feedback from the public.**

TN H₂O
TENNESSEE'S
WATER PLAN